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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE Technology Center 2600

Serial No. : 09/318,994  
Applicant(s) : SATO et al.  
Filed : May 26, 1999  
Title : IMAGE READING APPARATUS, AND DIMMING CONTROL METHOD AND  
LINE SENSOR LAYOUT METHOD THEREFOR

Art Unit : 2622  
Examiner : Cheukfan LEE

Docket No. : 1232-4540

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.111 AND  
RESPONSE TO EX PARTE QUAYLE ACTION**

Honorable Commissioner Of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

Sir:

✓  
Please amend the application as follows:

**In The Claims**

✓  
Please cancel claims 1-14, 29-42 and 51-53 without prejudice or disclaimer.

**REMARKS**

In response to the Office Action dated February 12, 2003, Applicants cancel withdrawn claims 1-14, 29-42 and 51-53 without prejudice. The right to file a divisional application on these claims is expressly reserved. The Office Action states that Claims 15-28 and 43-50 are allowed. Thus, this application is believed to be in a condition for allowance.

Applicants respectfully request an early and favorable examination on the merits.

In the event that a telephone conference would facilitate the examination of this application in any way, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number provided.